

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 019343
ORIGIN DLOS-09

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 019343

DELIVER OPENING OF BUSINESS; FOR AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT: STATUS

1. MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT REQUESTING MEETING IS NOW ON SECRETARY VANCE'S DESK. AFTER SECRETARY READ MEMO HE REQUESTED MEETING WITH YOU ON FEBRUARY 1 AT 10 A.M. SECRETARY'S OFFICE DOES NOT KNOW IF MEMO TO THE PRESIDENT WILL GO FORWARD PRIOR TO THIS MEETING.

2. (FYI: MRS. MINK HAS WRITTEN YOU A MEMORANDUM, COPY TO THE SECRETARY, IN WHICH SHE AGREES WITH YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT NAVIGATION AND MILITARY SECURITY INTERESTS ARE BETTER PROTECTED BY A TREATY THAN A NO-TREATY OUTCOME AND THAT THE US CANNOT ACCEPT A TREATY THAT FAILS TO PROVIDE A REASONABLE REGIME FOR THE DEEP SEABED. SHE DOES NOT DISAGREE THAT THE US SHOULD BE ENGAGED IN CONTINGENCY PLANNING GIVEN THE CURRENT STATE OF THE LOS NEGOTIATIONS, BUT SHE DOES NOT THINK IT IS WISE TO PUBLICIZE SUCH PLANNING. IN HER OPINION MOST NATIONS WOULD INTERPRET SUCH PLANNING AS AN ABANDONMENT OF

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THE CONFERENCE BY THE US AND WOULD OFFER A READY-MADE OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE COUNTRIES ALREADY OPPOSED TO A TREATY TO FURTHER UNDERMINE THE EFFORT. FINALLY, SHE STATES THAT PUBLICIZING SUCH PLANNING WILL LAY US OPEN TO CRITICISM THAT OUR ACTIONS WERE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN THE FAILURE OF THE CONFERENCE.

3. IT IS UNKNOWN IF MRS. MINK'S MEMO IS IN ANY WAY
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FEBRUARY 1 MEETING. END FYI.)

VANCE

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NNN

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